RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUN 0 9 2004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

09/862,939

(Confirmation No. 9754)

Applicant

Ronald D. Hoover

Filed

May 22, 2001

Art Unit

3643

Examiner

Bethany L. Griles

Docket No. Customer No.:

2210.132 21176

Date

June 9, 2004

Commissioner for Patents Post Office Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This responds to the Examiner's Amendment mailed along with the Notice of Allowance on May 24, 2004. As discussed with the Examiner, Applicant is filing this Amendment in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.312

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

